Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

The last study in the report dealing with the families of 1,000 delinquent children, and a like number of families of dependent children, whose cases were heard in the Juvenile Court branch, is well worth careful reading. The object was to determine the social conditions of the families in each group. The statistical tables covering this subject make up almost one-third of the total number in the report. It is unfortunate that the results of this study have not been summarized, for the information contained in this section of the report is of more than ordinary significance, and it should be presented in a way to command greater attention. However, the following data derived from the statistical tables is of especial interest, as it is impossible in this brief review to discuss the detailed items brought to light. In general then, one sees that there is an entirely different problem presented in the handling of the dependent and delinquent child, largely arising from the different social conditions surrounding them. In the first place the majority of dependents are under school age; while most of the delinquents are in school, and classified as truants or retarded to an unusual degree; or else have left school much below the eighth grade, and, therefore, are difficult to find employment for. The fathers of dependents are working in unskilled trades, and at least one-third of the mothers are employed. Bad housing and overcrowding is a minor problem with delinquents. Broken families are a large factor among dependents, in one-half the cases studied children were living in homes other than their own. Where unfortunate home conditions, such as neglect, alcoholism, and tuberculosis were observed, eighty-two per cent of the dependents were listed as against thirty-eight per cent of the delinquents. In other words, delinquency among children is more often an individual problem, while dependency is entirely a family problem, and to do away with it the social status of the home must be improved. While probation officers have recognized the fact for many years, it is valuable to know that statistical data bear out their opinion.

Juvenile Court, Chicago. HELEN M. JEWELL.

THE UNMARRIED MOTHER. By *Percy G. Kammerer.* Criminal Science Monograph No. 3. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1918. Pp. 342, $3.00.

The publication of "The Unmarried Mother" marks the distance society has progressed in thought on the subject of illegitimacy from the days when the subject was discussed emotionally and the mother of the illegitimate child was designated as the "Fallen Woman."

The book, based on the study of hundreds of case histories from among which 500 have been selected as vividly illustrating various aspects of the subject, reveals the fact that illegitimacy is a measurable problem which may be segregated and analyzed.

The strength of the book is in its recognition that the act resulting in pregnancy is invariably an expression of the individual's habits and dates from experiences of past years and is not an isolated phenomenon in her life; for instances, "it has frequently been neces-

sary to consider an influence brought to bear upon a girl during a plastic period of her development, sometimes four or five years previous to her pregnancy" . . . and again, "many a young girl has been so accustomed to immorality from an early age, both within her home and her immediate neighborhood, that she falls into habits of sexual laxness without having to overcome the standards which more fortunate girls possess" . . . and again, "it is frequently necessary for several persons to share the same sleeping room, sometimes three or four occupy the same bed. This has normal results in the dissemination of disease. Equally contaminating is the fact that hardly a married couple in a congested neighborhood is able to have a room for itself, so that children are often forced to sleep in the same room with their parents up to and within early adolescence" . . . .

To experienced social workers the recognition of the multitude of causes in each instance and emphasis on society's responsibility will come as a balm after unintelligent treatises of the past in which all responsibility was placed on the individual. Mr. Kammerer's arraignment of society and of the economic organization is doubly effective in that it is based on facts and is incidental rather than primary.

The study is comprehensive. The conclusions are in accord with the unexpressed experiences of workers with this group:

1. Steps should be taken for the control and segregation of the mentally abnormal woman during the child bearing age . . .

2. An attempt should be made to enact laws which will reflect the European experience in regard to the unmarried mother. The general emphasis of this legislation should aim towards the care of the child . . .

3. There should be an extension of efforts towards general social betterment . . .

4. There is great need for a revision of the attitude of the public towards questions of sex in general . . .

The book is a text book which should be familiar to every case worker and to individuals identified in any way with social problems; from the introduction by Dr. Healy to the end, it is authoritative and enlightening; carrying statistics, suggestions for advanced legislation, a bibliography and complete index. It should prove of immense help to communities seeking to remove untoward conditions.

It is readable because of the lure of case histories subordinated to theory. The keynote of the book is struck by Dr. Healy in his introduction: "What may we think of punishment or even of neglect of the unmarried mother when we contemplate the essential fact that, whereas most infraction of laws coincides with destructive results, here we have a law-breaker as a constructive agent, giving as concrete evidence of her "misbehavior" nature's highest product, a human being.

Woman's City Club, Chicago. AMELIA SEARS.